



Call for Proposals

Christopher Family Foundation Food and Family Program

The Family Resiliency Center (FRC) announces faculty seed grant funding through the Christopher Family Foundation Food and Family Program. The Food and Family Program is designed to support innovative transdisciplinary research that can unravel the complex connections between the family environment and healthy active lifestyles for all. We expect to fund up to two proposals with funding up to \$50,000 each. The grant period will begin Jan 1, 2018 and will be for 18 months (1/1/18-6/30/19).

There are three funding priorities in this call for proposals:

1. Social, family and environmental factors that contribute and support the development of healthy habits in young children.
2. Social and environmental factors that contribute to picky eating/food rejection behaviors in young children.
3. Strategies to address challenges in supporting breastfeeding during the transition to non-parental child care. This priority may include a research to practice framework but would need to utilize a gold standard program evaluation.

We anticipate awarding up to two seed grants of up to \$50,000 each.

Proposal Criteria: Each proposal will be reviewed by two members of the Family Resiliency Center’s internal advisory board. Final funding decision is made by the FRC’s director.

Proposals are reviewed using a modified NIH scoring system. Each criteria is scored 1-9.

IMPACT	SCORE	DESCRIPTOR	ADDITIONAL GUIDANCE ON STRENGTHS/WEAKNESSES
HIGH	1	Exceptional	Exceptionally strong with essentially no weaknesses
	2	Outstanding	Extremely strong with negligible weaknesses
	3	Excellent	Very strong with only some minor weaknesses
MEDIUM	4	Very Good	Strong but with numerous minor weaknesses
	5	Good	Strong but with at least one moderate weakness
	6	Satisfactory	Some strengths but also some moderate weaknesses
Low	7	Fair	Some strengths but with at least one major weakness
	8	Marginal	A few strengths and a few major weaknesses
	9	Poor	Very few strengths and numerous major weaknesses



Significance: Does the proposal address one of the key priority areas identified in the call for proposals? Does the proposal clearly identify specific aims to address a significant problem? Will the results of this study lead advances in scientific knowledge?

Investigators: Does the investigative team have the requisite skills to complete the proposed study? Is there a clear plan for how the investigators will work together? Are the interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary strengths clearly identified?

Innovation: Does the proposal utilize new and innovative interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary approaches or methodologies? Are the concepts or methodologies, broadly speaking, innovative to this field of investigation?

Approach: Are the overall strategy, methodology, and analyses well-reasoned and appropriate to accomplish the specific aims of the project? Do the specific aims seem reasonable and feasible to accomplish in the proposed time frame?

Environment: Is there institutional support, equipment and other physical resources available to the investigators to conduct the proposed work? Are there letters of support from the respective Department Heads?

Overall Impact: Overall assessment of the proposal and likelihood it will lead to future external funding.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND GRANTEE EXPECTATIONS

- Awardees will attend a new grantee meeting.
- PIs and team members will be expected to attend Food and Family Program Grantee Brown Bag sessions. They will be expected to present twice: 1) project overview in spring 2018/summer 2018; 2) project results spring 2019/summer 2019.
- All publications and presentations will recognize FRC support with the following text: This project was supported, in part, with funding from the Christopher Family Foundation Food and Family Program at the Family Resiliency Center, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

PROPOSAL DETAILS

Applications should be submitted at familyresiliency.illinois.edu/food-and-family-program-proposals.

Proposals are due October 31, 2017 at 5:00 p.m.

- Short title of project (60 character minimum)
- Names, contact information and affiliations of principal investigators
- Each proposal must include at least two investigators from two different disciplines
- Background/rationale and specific aims (one page, single-spaced, 12-point font)
- Method/approach (one to one-and-a-half page, single-spaced, 12-point font)

The proposal must include a statement about how the methods and approach is interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary in nature and addresses a significant problem from an interdisciplinary or transdisciplinary approach.

- Plans for dissemination, outreach, and future grant proposals (one half page, single-spaced, 12-point font)
- Budget (investigators should use OSPRA budget format: <http://sponsoredprograms.illinois.edu/resources/forms.html>. Please note that there are no indirect costs.)
- Budget narrative
- Biosketch of principal investigators—(NIH format)
- Letters of support—**must include a letter of support from the department head of each primary investigator**

